



### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope, with sufficient postage, addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

January 3, 2002

Date of Deposit

Janet A. Pioli, Reg. No. 35,323

Name of Applicant, Assignee or  
Registered Representative

A handwritten signature of Janet A. Pioli.

Signature

January 3, 2002

Date of Signature

RECEIVED  
JAN 23 2002  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Our Case No.: 11114-4

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

M. Keith Sharp

Serial No.: 09/973,477

Filing Date: October 6, 2001

For: Hypodermic Needle

Examiner: To Be Determined

Group Art Unit No.: 3763

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, it is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be entered and the documents listed below and on the attached Form PTO-1449 be

considered by the Examiner and made of record. Copies of the listed documents required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2) are enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The references now cited are the following:

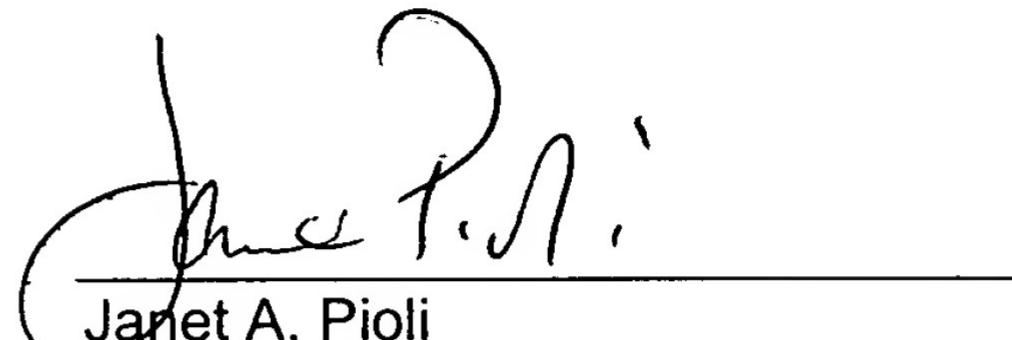
No.	Date	Name
4,889,529	December 26, 1989	Haindl
5,133,362	July 28, 1992	Moss
5,290,267	March 1, 1994	Zimmermann
5,733,266	March 31, 1998	Gravlee, Jr.
5,873,841	February 23, 1999	Brannon
6,009,933	January 4, 2000	Doyle et al.
6,013,037	January 11, 2000	Brannon

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g),(h), this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made and is not to be construed to be an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed prior to the receipt of the first Official Action reflecting an examination on the merits and hence is believed to be timely filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to these material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this document is enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be made of record  
in the present case.

Respectfully submitted,



Janet A. Pioli  
Registration No. 35,323  
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. Box 10395  
Chicago, IL 60610  
(312) 321-4200

TRANSMITTAL LETTER				Case No. 11114-4
Serial No. 09/973,477	Filing Date October 6, 2001	Examiner To Be Determined	Group Art Unit 3763	
Inventor M. Keith Sharp				RECEIVED JAN 23 2002 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE
Title of Invention Hypodermic Needle				

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Transmitted herewith is Information Disclosure Statement; PTO Form 1449; seven references; white postcard evidencing receipt of same.

- Small entity status of this application under 37 CFR § 1.27 has been established by verified statement previously submitted.
- A verified statement to establish small entity status under 37 CFR §§ 1.9 and 1.27 is enclosed.
- Petition for a \_\_\_\_\_ month extension of time.
- No additional fee is required.
- The fee has been calculated as shown below:

		Small Entity		Other Than Small Entity	
		Rate	Add'l Fee	Rate	Add'l Fee
Total	Minus	x \$9 =		x \$18 =	
Indep.	Minus	x 42 =		x \$84 =	
First Presentation of Multiple Dep. Claim		+ \$140 =		+ \$280 =	
			Total add'l fee		Total add'l fee
			\$		\$0

- Please charge Deposit Account No. 23-1925 (BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- A check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any additional filing fees required under 37 CFR § 1.16 and any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
- I hereby petition under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) for any extension of time required to ensure that this paper is timely filed. Please charge any associated fees which have not otherwise been paid to Deposit Account No. 23-1925. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.



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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Respectfully submitted,

Janet A. Pioli  
Registration No. 35,323  
Attorney for Applicant

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Date: January 3, 2002 Signature: